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From: WaterISAC
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Subject: WaterISAC Pro Daily Update - January 21, 2014

Not for Public Dissemination

January 21, 2014

Water sector incidents and current threats

Elk River, West Virginia Contamination Response

- **Over the weekend, West Virginia American Water reported the “Do Not Use” order had been lifted for all customers served by its Kanawha Valley Treatment Plan.**
 - **West Virginia American Water has posted a "Next Steps" document to its website discussing remaining response activities.**
- **West Virginia American Water continues to provide the following advice to it's customers: According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “At this time, scientists continue to recommend 1 ppm as a protective level to prevent adverse health effects. However, due to limited availability of data, and out of an abundance of caution, you may wish to consider an alternative drinking water source for pregnant women until the chemical is at non-detectable levels in the water distribution system.”**
- **Louisville Water Company reported the chemical plume passed through its area on the evening of Friday, January 17.**
 - **Scientists measured the concentration at trace amounts in the Ohio River - just 3.5 parts per billion at the highest point. By Saturday morning, there were no detections of the chemical in the Ohio River.**
 - **There are no detections of the chemical in Louisville's drinking water.**

Given these latest developments, WaterISAC is concluding reporting on this incident. However, WaterISAC will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates if necessary.

[Read more on the WaterISAC Portal](#)

General Security

Survey of Security Incidents in the Water Sector: July - December 2013 (DEADLINE EXTENDED)

RESILIENCE

WaterISAC needs your help to develop the upcoming semi-annual analysis of water sector security incidents and suspicious activities in the water sector, covering July 1 - December 31, 2013. The survey asks questions about the number and types of incidents both experienced and prevented at your organization and seeks information on the types of products and services that would most assist your security preparedness and resilience strategies. The deadline for responses has been moved to Friday, January 24, 2014, so please take a few moments to complete the survey.

[Access the survey on the WaterISAC Portal](#)

Arctic Airmass and Snow Storm Affecting Eastern United States

The National Weather Service predicts ranges of a couple inches to up to one foot of snow for Virginia to Massachusetts beginning today. Additionally, a batch of cold air is moving from the Tennessee Valley and lower Midwest to the East Coast and is bringing temperatures 10 to 25 degrees below average. A second frigid weather system is moving down from Canada and will plunge temperatures into the double-digit minus degrees all along the border. [National Weather Service](#)

Russian Police Warn of “Black Widow” Suspect in Sochi

Police in Sochi, Russia, the site of the upcoming 2014 Winter Olympics, are handing out fliers at area hotels warning of a woman they believe could be a terrorist and who may already be in the city. According to the flier, Ruzanna “Salima” Ibragimova is a widow of a militant from the Caucasus region and may be involved in organizing “a terrorist act within the 2014 Olympic region.” Security concerns in Sochi and elsewhere in Russia have been heightened by recent spates of terrorist attacks and threats. [CNN](#)

Propane Supply Issues in the United States

The Department of Homeland Security has released an Infrastructure Impact Assessment (IIA) that discusses the effects of propane shortages across the nation. It notes numerous states are taking emergency measures to help ensure the delivery of propane to commercial and residential customers. Propane shortages, which are not uncommon in the U.S. during peak demand periods, are not expected to threaten lives or result in work stoppages. In related news, Ohio Governor Kasich issued a statewide Energy Emergency Declaration on Monday, January 20, to expedite propane shipments.

[Read more on the WaterISAC Portal](#)

Carbon Nanotube Technology in Water Clean-Up **CYBERSECURITY**

A new study presents findings on a carbon nanotube sponge capable of soaking up water contaminants, such as fertilizers, pesticides, and pharmaceuticals, more than three times more efficiently than previous efforts. The carbon nanotube sponges, uniquely doped with sulphur, also demonstrated a high capacity to absorb oil, potentially opening up the possibility of using the material in industrial accidents and oil spill clean-ups. [Institute of Physics](#)

“123456” Unseats “Password” from Top of Worst Passwords List

In it's annual list of the 25 most common passwords, SplashData has announced that “123456” has replaced “password” as the most common and therefore Worst Password. This year's list was influenced by the large number of passwords revealed in the 2013 Adobe breach. SplashData encourages computer users to implement passwords of eight characters or more with mixed types of characters. It also advocates the use of passphrases – short words with spaces or other characters separating them. [Net Security](#)

20 Million South Koreans Affected by Insider Data Theft

The risks posed by insider threats were recently manifested in South Korea, where the personal and financial information of some 20 million residents was compromised by a consultant working for a personal credit ratings firm. The compromised user information includes the customers' names, phone numbers, social security numbers, and credit card numbers. The insider sold the information to phone companies. [Net Security](#)

Tomorrow's Events

Emergency Power Generation at Drinking Water and Wastewater Utilities Webinar by U.S. EPA

Wednesday, January 22, 2014, 1 p.m. ET

U.S. EPA will host the first of four events in its Water and Energy Nexus in Disasters Webinar Series. The webinar will feature two water utility speakers who will share their perspectives and experiences with backup generators, covering such topics as sizing, maintenance, and fuel storage and delivery. They will also share their lessons learned from significant storm events that impacted their facilities, such as Superstorm Sandy. [Register here](#)

MSA Security Webinar Series: Mail Borne Threats

Wednesday, January 22, 2014, 2 p.m. ET

MSA Security is hosting a series of four webinar events focused on mail borne threats to corporate and government facilities. The presentations will look at the history of such threats, mitigation solutions, and the latest technology and industry best practices. The target audience for these briefings consists of security directors, managers, and those tasked with decision-making responsibilities regarding mailroom policies and procedures. [Register here](#)

Upcoming Events

Water Sector Cyber Threat Briefing by WaterISAC

Tuesday, January 28, 2014, 2-3 PM ET

On January 28, 2014, WaterISAC will host the monthly Water Sector Cyber Threat Briefing. The webcast will cover industrial control system security incidents and emerging threats, new industrial control system vulnerabilities in the water sector, situational awareness updates and opportunities for additional support and learning. The webcast will feature presentations from Cavron Mortensen, U.S. Department of Homeland Security ICS CERT; Jeffrey Ashcraft, Critical Intelligence; and Salim Neino, Kryptos Logic.

Information and registration

The WaterISAC Pro Daily Update is distributed to WaterISAC Pro members every weekday with the exception of public holidays and special events. WaterISAC will issue alerts or advisories outside of this schedule when warranted.

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